

DRAFT MINUTES

Virginia Seed Potato Board
Trawler Restaurant, Exmore, VA
December 4, 2007
4:45 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m. by Chairman Wayne Heath. The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved, following a motion made by David Scott and seconded by Phil Hickman.

Members Present:

David Scott
Fred Holland
Bill Floyd
Wayne Heath
Joe Black
Phil Hickman

Va. Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services

W. Nottingham, Program Director
Brett Richardson
E.L. Nicely
Tom Smith

Members Absent:

John H. Duer, III

The chairman asked Butch Nottingham to assume the chair for the purpose of conducting the election of a chairman for 2007-08. Phil Hickman nominated Wayne Heath to serve as Chairman and Bill Floyd as Vice-Chairman. The nominations were seconded by Mr. Scott. Mr. Hickman moved that the nominations be closed and the nominees be elected by acclamation. The motion carried and Mr. Heath assumed the Chair.

OLD BUSINESS

Tom Smith, and E.L. Nicely, Federal-State Inspection Service, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, gave a brief recap of the 2006-2007 seed season. Tom Smith distributed a handout with a breakdown of the different types of seed received in 2007.

The question of the Board's policy in handling of problem loads was discussed.

Members of the Board felt that the procedure as defined in the minutes of the Board meeting held on Oct. 29, 1991 was working well and should continue for the 2008 seed season. This understanding included the handling of red tag loads, requests for releases under stop sale orders, etc. It was decided that the Chairman would again send a letter to growers explaining the benefits of the seed law to them and asking for their cooperation.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board's rules and regulations were reviewed. The members present expressed that there had been no comments received from the industry indicating any problems and there should be no action by the Board to begin the rule changing process for the year 2008.

Tom Smith reported that the Seed Program would be conducted in 2007/08 just as it had in 2006/07, i.e., on a no fee basis. Doug Gillespie, Jerry Miles, and Walter Buchanan will be handling the seed inspections

There was a general discussion of problems dealing with fusarium tuber rot. It was decided that the Board would continue with this problem as in the past. A REQUEST FOR RELEASE FORM for dealing with problem loads was distributed.

The Board discussed the need for a wrap-up meeting. It was decided that a meeting would not be scheduled for May unless needed.

The price and availability of seed for 2007/2008 was discussed.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Heath, Chairman

J. W. Nottingham
Program Director